

NEWS RELEASE



***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
San Diego, California***

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For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - June 16, 2008

United States Attorney Karen P. Hewitt announced that Jose Lopez-Sanchez, a.k.a. Enrique Lopez-Arroyo ("Lopez"), was sentenced today in federal court in San Diego by the Honorable Marilyn L. Huff to serve a custodial sentence of 60 months based on Lopez's conviction for Conspiracy to Distribute Marijuana, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 846. Judge Huff also ordered that Lopez serve a four-year term of supervised release following the completion of his prison term.

According to court records, Lopez pled guilty on April 3, 2008 to conspiracy to distribute approximately 362 pounds of marijuana. Lopez's conviction arises from his arrest near Jacumba, California on January 7, 2008. On that date, at approximately 7:30 p.m., agents observed what appeared to be a group of suspected illegal aliens running toward the west entrance of O'Neil Valley. After spotting law enforcement officers, Lopez immediately began running away and ignored the agent's commands. After a brief foot chase, agents apprehended Lopez and asked Lopez of what country he was a citizen; Lopez stated that he was citizen and national of Mexico and did not possess any immigration documents that would allow him to enter or remain in the United States legally. Lopez was placed under arrest at that time. Agents then searched the

area with a narcotic detector dog and recovered eight bags containing 16 packages of marijuana, weighing approximately 164 kilograms.

The case was investigated by agents of the United States Border Patrol and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

DEFENDANT

Case No. 08cr0337-H

Jose Lopez-Sanchez
a.k.a. Enrique Lopez-Arroyo

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 846 (Conspiracy to Distribute Marijuana)

AGENCIES

U.S. Border Patrol
Drug Enforcement Administration